

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to FIGs. 1, 5A, 5B, 5C, and 5D. These sheets, which include FIGs. 1, 5A, 5B, 5C, and 5D, replace the original sheets including FIGs. 1, 5A, 5B, 5C, and 5D. In FIG 1, items 107, 108, and 114 have been connected to the main drawing as described in the specification. In FIGs 5A, 5B, 5C, and 5D, a frame has been added around the text to show that they depict a computer page as described in the specification. No new data has been added.

Attachment: 5 Replacement sheets.

REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed on **24 March 2006**, the Examiner reviewed claims 1-43. The drawings were objected to. Claims 1-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 15, 29, and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dutta (USPN 6,789,076, hereinafter “Dutta”), in view of Edlund et al (USPN 6,546,388, hereinafter “Edlund”).

Objections to the drawings

The drawings were objected to.

Applicant has amended the drawings as described above to correct the deficiencies noted by the Examiner.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 1-43 were rejected as being indefinite.

Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 15, 29, and 43 to clarify the term “faceted metadata.” Dependent claims 2-3, 10-12, 14, 16-17, 24-26, 28, 30-31, 38-40, and 42 have been amended to correct antecedent basis.

Applicant has amended dependent claims 10, 24, and 38 to clarify the automatic generation of the query.

Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 15, 29, and 43 to clarify the structural relationship between the elements of the claim.

No new matter has been added.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 15, 29, and 43 were rejected as being unpatentable over Dutta in view of Edlund. Applicant respectfully points out that the combined system of Dutta and Edlund performs additional searches **on the initial results on the client**

and not on all information available on the network (see Dutta, FIG. 3, box 60, and col. 9, line 64 to col. 10, line 6).

In contrast, the present invention refines queries based upon the results of the previous query and **suggestions to refine the search generated at the server** using faceted metadata (see paragraphs [0041]-[0043] of the instant application). This is beneficial because it provides suggestions for refining the query that include all available resources on the network. There is nothing within Dutta or Edlund, either separately or in concert, which suggests refining queries based upon the results of the previous query and suggestions to refine the search generated at the server using faceted metadata.


Accordingly, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 15, 29, and 43 to clarify that the present invention refines queries based upon the results of the previous query and suggestions to refine the search generated at the **server** using faceted metadata. These amendments find support in paragraphs [0041]-[0043] of the instant application.

Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 15, 29, and 43 as presently amended are in condition for allowance. Applicant also submits that claims 2-14, which depend upon claim 1, claims 16-28, which depend upon claim 15, and claims 30-42, which depend upon claim 29, are for the same reasons in condition for allowance and for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the present application is presently in form for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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